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scientific research. His published works on 'Plan of Classification for the World's Columbian Exposition,' 'Museums of the Future' and other contributions to museum methods and the history of scientific and educational institutions made him the leading authority in America on these subjects. His executive work in the Smithsonian Institution and the U. S. National Museum, extending to every detail and label, will only be appreciated by those who have been associated with him.

It is fitting that we should refer to his connection with this JOURNAL. For him it was only one of many interests, but the JOURNAL had scarcely another friend so able and wise. He contributed an important paper, his address as President before the Philosophical Society of Washington, to the first issue of the new series, and in the last number that appeared before his death his last paper was printed. He not only published in SCIENCE many articles of great value but he also helped continually in its editorial conduct. This JOURNAL, like the Smithsonian Institution, the National Academy of Sciences and other agencies devoted to the advancement and diffusion of science, has suffered an irreparable loss.

But Goode's greatest work was the man himself. He was honored and loved by all. His untiring and unselfish 'devotion to his work and to the helping of others ended only when he had sacrificed his life to it. A man such as Dana dies, his life work accomplished, and we do not rebel against the order of the world. But when nature, prodigal of life and souls, spends millions of years to bring forth at the end a man

such as Goode, and then cuts him down in his prime, we stand at gaze. Each must take up his appointed task, but more wearily.

#### BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

THE second annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America, was held at Buffalo, N. Y., on August 21 and 22, 1896, in rooms in the High School building, kindly provided for its use by the Local Committee of the A. A. A. S. Business sessions were held on Friday afternoon, Saturday morning, and for a few minutes late Saturday afternoon. The reading of papers occupied the greater part of Saturday afternoon, and the address of the retiring president was given on Friday evening. Sessions of the Council preceded the business sessions of the Society for which it arranges the program.

The Society was called to order by President WILLIAM TRELEASE, who resigned the chair to the president-elect, CHARLES E. BESSEY, which he assumed with a brief address.

The Secretary announced that since the last meeting one of the most distinguished members of the Society, MICHAEL SCHUCK BEBB, had passed away. A committee consisting of Messrs. COULTER, BRITTON and MACMILLAN, was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions. These, presented later and adopted, are as follows :

"The Botanical Society of America desires to place upon record an expression of esteem for its deceased member, Michael Schuck Bebb, who died December 5, 1895, at San Bernardino, California.

"His published studies upon the difficult genus *Salix* have brought him to high rank as a professional botanist, and American botany owes to him a debt of gratitude as one of its most distinguished representatives."

The ballots for officers for the coming year, which are mailed to the secretary, when canvassed by the council, showed the

election of JOHN M. COULTER, of the University of Chicago, as president; CHARLES R. BARNES, of the University of Wisconsin, as secretary; ARTHUR HOLLICK, of Columbia University, as treasurer; and B. L. ROBINSON, of Harvard University, as councillor. No election having occurred of vice-president and a councillor, the Society proceeded to elect these officers. CHARLES S. SARGENT, of the Arnold Arboretum, was elected vice-president, and F. V. COVILLE, of the Department of Agriculture, councillor.

The council having approved the names of CHARLES H. PECK, State Botanist of New York, and BEVERLY T. GALLOWAY, Chief of the Division of Vegetable Physiology and Pathology, Department of Agriculture, these gentlemen were unanimously elected to membership.

The Society having asked the council to consider the best means of increasing the membership of the Society while preserving rigidly the high standard required by the constitution, the council recommended the appointment of a committee whose duty it should be to see that suitable nominations were made, so that the making of nominations would not go by default as heretofore. With the distinct statement that the making of nominations to membership by this committee shall in no way prevent the making of such nominations by other members, Messrs. Trelease, Atkinson and N. L. Britton were appointed.

Special invitations to the Society to hold its next meeting in Detroit, Denver and Nashville, were read and left with the council for action. Much time was given to the consideration of the question of a winter meeting. After a full expression of the opinions of members had been obtained, the matter was left in the hands of the Council with instructions to determine the feasibility of such a meeting and to appoint it if found practicable.

The Treasurer's report, which was au-

dited and found correct by a committee composed of Messrs. Underwood and MacMillan and Mrs. Britton, showed a balance of about \$700, deposited chiefly in the Institution for the Savings of Merchants' Clerks, in New York. The Council directed that the Treasurer give bond for \$1,000 in any surety company, the expense for the same to be paid by the Society.

The request of the National Educational Association, that a member be appointed to confer with a committee of that association regarding the unification of requirements in botany for entrance to colleges, was acceded to by designating President Bessey to act as such conferee.

On Friday evening the address of the retiring president, William Trelease, to which the public was invited, was given in the chapel of the High School. A good audience listened to the discussion of 'Botanical Opportunity.' By request of the Society the address is published in full in SCIENCE and in the *Botanical Gazette*. The suggestiveness and timeliness of the address is such that the Council directed that 1,000 separates of it be distributed in the name of the Society.

On Saturday afternoon the following papers were read before the Society:

L. H. BAILEY: *The philosophy of species-making*. 15 min.

GEORGE F. ATKINSON: *Some problems in sporophyll transformation*. 20 min.

CONWAY MACMILLAN: *Some characteristics of a fresh-water insular flora*. 1 hour.

N. L. BRITTON: *A species of Eleocharis new to North America*. 5 min.

CHARLES R. BARNES,  
Secretary.

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#### BOTANICAL OPPORTUNITY.\*

IN selecting a subject for the first presidential address before the Botanical Society

\*Address of the retiring President, delivered before the Botanical Society of America, at Buffalo, N. Y., August 21, 1896.